

# Glossary

Core-Awareness-Training

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## Fusion Centers

A fusion center is generally ?a collaborative effort of two or more agencies that provide resources, expertise, and information to the center with the goal of maximizing their ability to detect, prevent, investigate, and respond to criminal and terrorist activity.? Fusion centers may include a range of Federal, State, and local entities and collect and analyze information related to homeland security, terrorism, and law enforcement.[1](#)

## Global Justice Information Sharing Initiative (Global)

The Global Justice Information Sharing Initiative (Global) serves as a Federal Advisory Committee (FAC) and advises the U.S. Attorney General on justice information sharing and integration initiatives. Global was created to support the broad scale exchange of pertinent justice and public safety information. It promotes standards-based electronic information exchange to provide the justice community with timely, accurate, complete, and accessible information in a secure and trusted environment.[2](#)

## Homeland Security Information

Homeland security information, as derived from section 482(f)(1) of the Homeland Security Act of 2002, means any information possessed by a Federal, State, local, or tribal agency that relates to (A) a threat of terrorist activity, (B) the ability to prevent, interdict, or disrupt terrorist activity, (C) the identification or investigation of a suspected terrorist or terrorist organization or any person, group, or entity associated with or assisting a suspected terrorist or terrorist organization, or (D) a planned or actual response to a terrorist act.

## Information Sharing Environment (ISE)

An approach that facilitates the sharing of terrorism information in a manner consistent with national security and with applicable legal standards relating to privacy and civil liberties.[3](#)

## Interagency Threat Assessment and Coordination Group (ITACG)

The President and Congress directed establishment of the ITACG to improve the sharing of information with State, local, tribal, and private sector (SLTP) officials within the scope of the Information Sharing Environment (ISE). The ITACG supports the efforts of the National Counterterrorism Center (NCTC) to

produce "federally coordinated" terrorism-related information products intended for dissemination to State, local, and tribal officials and private sector partners through existing channels established by Federal departments and agencies.[4](#)

## **Law Enforcement Information (for the ISE)**

Law Enforcement Information is defined as any information obtained by or of interest to a law enforcement agency or official that is both:

- Related to terrorism or the security of our homeland, and
- Relevant to a law enforcement mission, including but not limited to:
  - Information pertaining to an actual or potential criminal, civil, or administrative investigation or a foreign intelligence, counterintelligence, or counter terrorism investigation;
  - Assessment of or response to criminal threats and vulnerabilities;
  - The existence, organization, capabilities, plans, intention, vulnerabilities, means, method, or activities of individuals or groups involved or suspected of involvement in criminal or unlawful conduct or assisting or associated with criminal or unlawful conduct;
  - The existence, identification, detection, prevention, interdiction, or disruption of, or response to criminal acts and violations of the law;
  - Identification, apprehension, prosecution, release, detention, adjudication, supervision, or rehabilitation of accused persons or criminal offenders; and
  - Victim/witness assistance.

## **National Counterterrorism Center**

NCTC serves as the primary organization in the United States Government for integrating and analyzing all intelligence pertaining to terrorism possessed or acquired by the United States Government (except purely domestic terrorism); serves as the central and shared knowledge bank on terrorism information; provides all-source intelligence support to government-wide counterterrorism activities; establishes the information technology (IT) systems and architectures within the NCTC and between the NCTC and other agencies that enable access to, as well as integration, dissemination, and use of, terrorism information.[5](#)

## **National Infrastructure Protection Plan (NIPP)**

The National Infrastructure Protection Plan (NIPP) and supporting Sector-Specific Plans (SSPs) provide a coordinated approach to critical infrastructure and key resources (CI/KR) protection roles and responsibilities for Federal, State, local, tribal, and private sector security partners. The NIPP sets national priorities, goals, and requirements for effective distribution of funding and resources which will help ensure that our government, economy, and public services continue in the event of a terrorist attack or other disaster.[6](#)

## **Private sector Partners**

Businesses, trade associations, and other non-governmental organizations. In the context of the ISE, private sector partners may include companies which are responsible for the national infrastructure (transportation, banking, power plants). Further details are available in the National Infrastructure

## Terrorism Information

Terrorism information, as defined by section 1016(a)(5) of the Intelligence Reform and Terrorism Prevention Act of 2004 (IRTPA) and amended by the Implementing Recommendations of the 9/11 Commission Act of 2007, includes:

- All information relating to (A) the existence, organization, capabilities, plans, intentions, vulnerabilities, means of finance or material support, or activities of foreign or international terrorist groups or individuals, or of domestic groups or individuals involved in transnational terrorism, (B) threats posed by such groups or individuals to the United States, United States persons, or United States interests, or to those of other nations, (C) communications of or by such groups or individuals, or (D) groups or individuals reasonably believed to be assisting or associated with such groups or individuals; and
- Weapons of Mass Destruction information which means information that could reasonably be expected to assist in the development, proliferation, or use of a weapon of mass destruction (including a chemical, biological, radiological, or nuclear weapon) that could be used by a terrorist or terrorist organization against the United States, including information about the location of any stockpile of nuclear materials that could be exploited for use in such a weapon that could be used by a terrorist or a terrorist organization against the United States. (section 1016(a)(6))
- Homeland Security Information as defined in section 892(f) of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 which means any information possessed by a Federal, State, or local agency that (A) relates to the threat of terrorist activity; (B) relates to the ability to prevent, interdict, or disrupt terrorist activity; (C) would improve the identification or investigation of a suspected terrorist or terrorist organization; or (D) would improve the response to a terrorist act.

## Terrorist Screening Center (TSC)

The TSC was established by Homeland Security Presidential Directive 6 which directed that a center be established to consolidate the government's approach to terrorism screening and to provide for the appropriate and lawful use of terrorist information in screening processes. The TSC began operations on December 1, 2003.[7](#)

## Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMD) Information

Weapons of mass destruction information, consistent with IRTPA 1016(a)(6) of IRTPA, as amended, means information that could reasonably be expected to assist in the development, proliferation, or use of a weapon of mass destruction (including a chemical, biological, radiological, or nuclear weapon) that could be used by a terrorist or a terrorist organization against the United States, including information about the location of any stockpile of nuclear materials that could be exploited for use in such a weapon that could be used by a terrorist or a terrorist organization against the United States.

1 Source: Global Justice Information Sharing Initiative, Fusion Center Guidelines, Developing and Sharing Information and Intelligence in a New Era, Guidelines for Establishing and Operating Fusion Centers at the Local, State, and Federal Levels?Law Enforcement Intelligence, Public Safety, and the Private Sector (August 2006).

2<http://it.ojp.gov/global> [8]

3 Intelligence Reform and Terrorism Prevention Act of 2004, Section 1016(b)(1) and the PM-ISE Implementation Plan, p.6,150

4<http://www.ise.gov/interagency-threat-assessment-and-coordination-group-...> [9]

5[http://www.nctc.gov/about\\_us/about\\_nctc.html](http://www.nctc.gov/about_us/about_nctc.html) [10]

6 [http://www.dhs.gov/xprevprot/programs/editorial\\_0827.shtm#1](http://www.dhs.gov/xprevprot/programs/editorial_0827.shtm#1) [11]

7 <http://www.fbi.gov/terrorinfo/counterrorism/mission.htm> [12]

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[12] <http://www.fbi.gov/terrorinfo/counterrorism/mission.htm>